



# PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Mark Johnson, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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**DATE:** May 8, 2020

**TO:** Exceptional Children Directors/Preschool Coordinators

**FROM:** Sherry H. Thomas, Director  
Sherri Vernelson, Section Chief, Sensory Support and Assistive Technology

**RE:** **The North Carolina Early Learning Sensory Support Program 2020-2021 Assurances and Request for Services Documents**

The North Carolina Early Learning Sensory Support Program (ELSSP) within the Sensory Support and Assistive Technology Section has updated the Request for Services and Assurance documents for the 2020-2021 school year. Although the ELSSP primarily serves children and families under Part C of IDEA, when capacity is available, and in locations that do not have qualified staff and are in primarily rural areas, the ELSSP may serve children with hearing or vision impairments ages three to five under IDEA Part B.

The attached forms are required if a Local Education Agency (LEA) desires to make a request for the ELSSP to provide specially designed instruction for a student age three to five with a vision or hearing loss. The request will be reviewed and within 14 days a response will be provided to the LEA.

For questions or additional information, please contact the appropriate program administrator:

ELSSP – Hearing Impaired	<a href="mailto:Ruth.anne.everett@dpi.nc.gov">Ruth.anne.everett@dpi.nc.gov</a>
ELSSP – Visually Impaired	<a href="mailto:Bethany.mayo@dpi.nc.gov">Bethany.mayo@dpi.nc.gov</a>

Cc: Dr. Beverly Emory  
Bethany Mayo  
Ruth Anne Everett

Attachments

**EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION  
EARLY LEARNING SENSORY SUPPORT PROGRAM**

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